Amateur Radio in Ukraine

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Ukraine Amateur Radio Facts

- UR-UZ, EM-EO (specials)
- Second letter of a three-letter suffix: W, X, Y, Z - Club station
- 17,265 (49 million), 15th place
- 332/340 “most wanted”
- Sumy Amateur Radio Club EM80A - 95 y.o. (oldest in Ukraine)

Amateur Radio in Sumy - Back in Time

- Nickolay Lashchenko EU5BH (SK)
- October 1929, 1st QRP QSO between USSR and Australia (VK2CE). TX 3W, 20m band
- UR-QRP-CLUB (collective member of QRP ARCI)

Ukraine VHF/UHF Activity Day

Sumy Intramural Radio Championship

Club Station UT7AXA

- Over the last 35 years several hundred middle-schoolers learned the basics of amateur radio, participated in contests and earned awards
- Teachers and Elmers: Kostyantyn UR2AM, Alex UT2AB, Sergey UR5AU
- I was a first student of UR2AM, way before UT7AXA, in 1986

DX and Fox hunting

Contesting

Awards and YOTA

February 24, 2022

Ban on Amateur Radio

- February 24, 2022: Decree from President Volodymyr Zelensky included “a ban on the operation of amateur radio transmitters for personal and collective use.”
- A month later the regulation has been shifted from the country level to the oblast'
- As of March 15, 2023 - still banned in Donetsk, Lugansk, Kherson, Krym (4 of 25 total)
- “Any radio amateur currently transmitting from Ukraine is risking his or her life. If you hear a Ukrainian station, do not broadcast its callsign, location or frequency — whether on the band, in a cluster or on social media. You may be putting lives at risk.” (IARU - Region 1)

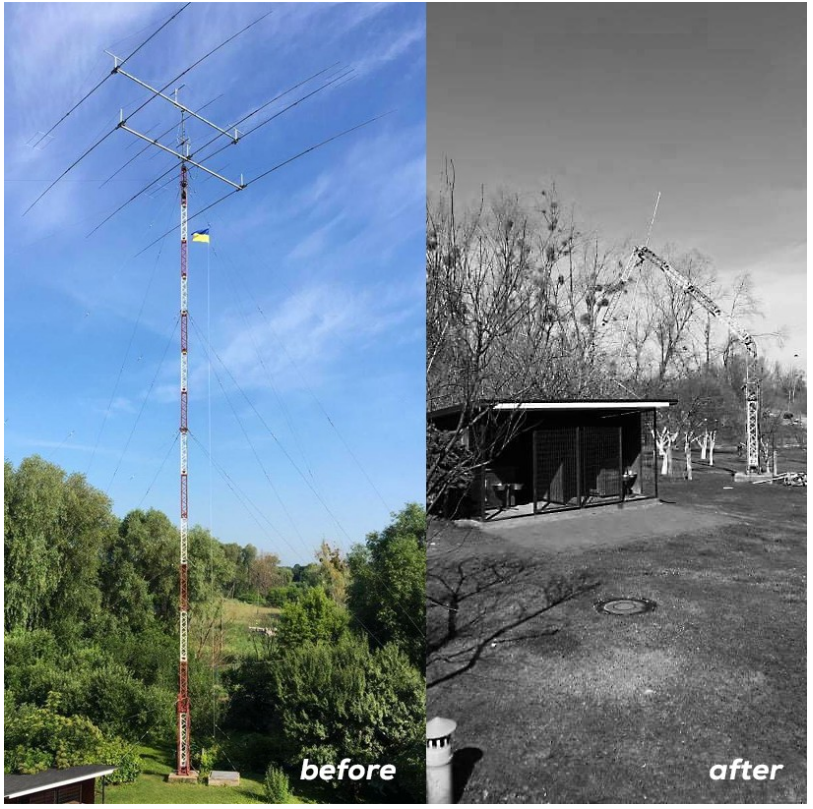
Is it Difficult to Operate?

- Towers and antennas had to be disassembled/put down
- Risk of looting or violence
- Can be considered as combatant or artillery spotter
- Widespread power outages

Is it Dangerous?

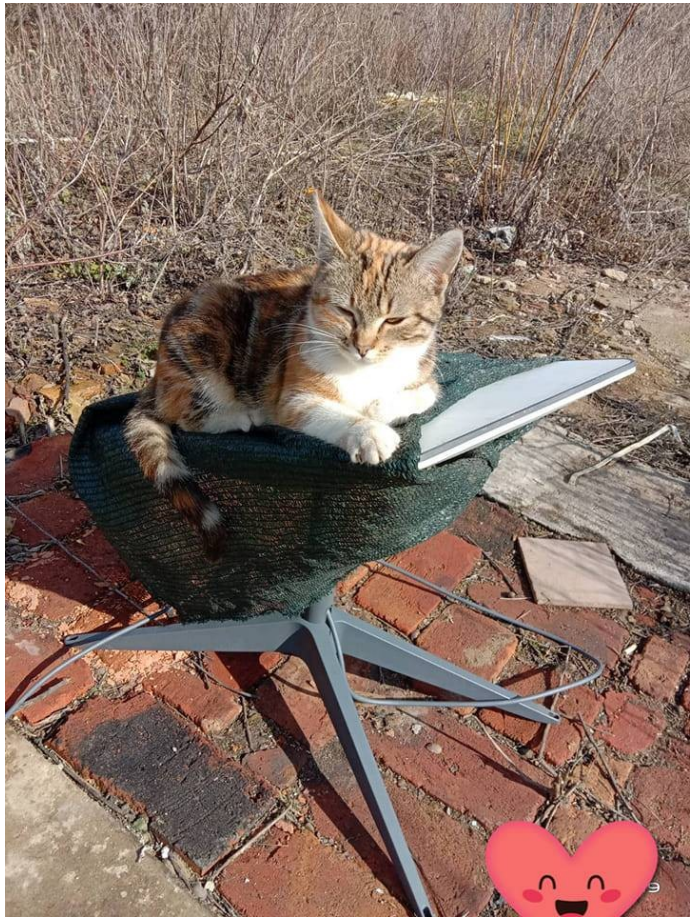
- Sergei UX1UA (UV5U)
- RigExpert - one of the founders
- President of Kiev DX and Contest Club
- 460K QSO in the log
- QTH: Gostomel, near Kyiv

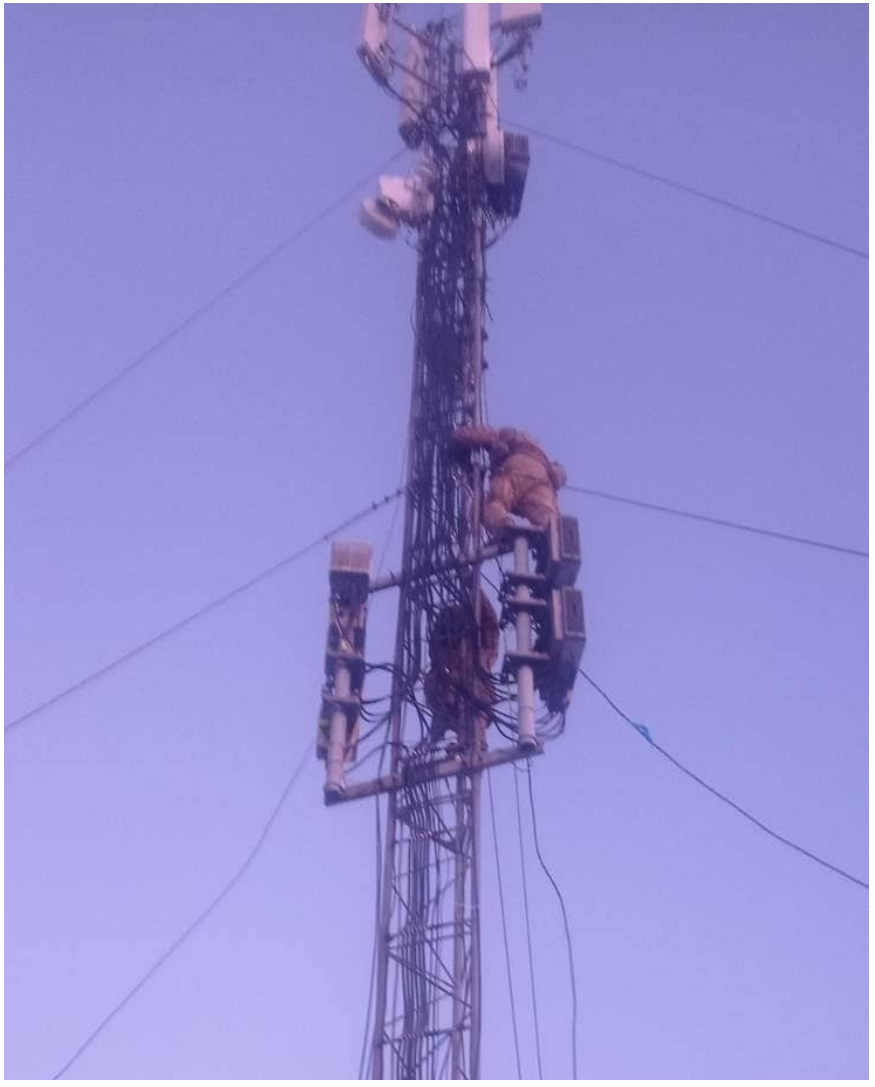
Is it Dangerous?



Amateurs Do Their Part

- Donate their skills and equipment to the ZSU and Territorial Defense
- Intercept enemy’s communications, DQRM bombers nets, provide intel information, spotting
- Establish communications, help in rescue efforts after enemy strikes
- Support ZSU and TD in electronic warfare, drones interception, encrypted comms
- Send the message to the world





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PRO 80

Amateurs Do Their Part

1 year later. War of Attrition

- Still dangerous. Air raids, missiles, kamikaze drones, artillery shelling every day
- Most Ukrainian hams cannot go on air or leave the country to visit exhibitions and participate in contests due to the martial law in the country
- Many famous amateur radio stations are blown up
- Many amateurs are fighting or lost their lives
- Ukraine will participate in WRTC Italy 2022 (see Yuri VE3DZ remark)

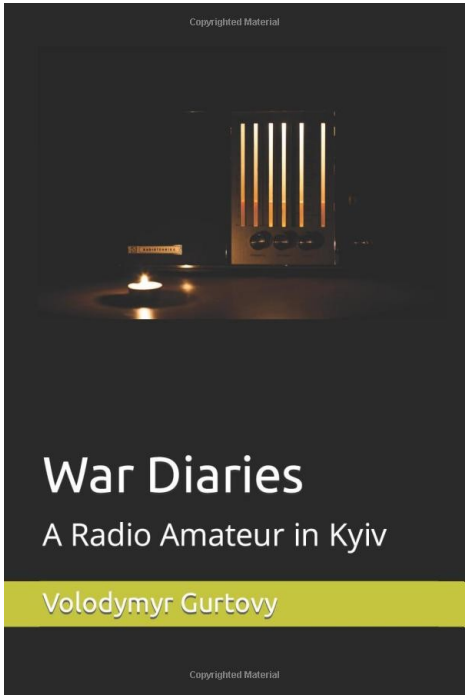
Amateur Radio Out of Politics

Amateur Radio Out of Politics

How Amateur World React

- Canceled or limited participation of Russian and Belorussian amateurs: CEPT, YOTA, CQ Magazine (USA), UBA (Belgium), PZK (Poland), LSRS (Lithuania), SCC (Slovenia), UKEICC (Ireland), OCDX (Australia- New Zealand), JIDX (Japan), BARTG (UK), RSGB (UK), CRC (Czech), EDR (Denmark)
- BH6KOK: “CQ UR” 30 minutes per day
- W9KM: “NO QSO” for Russia, Belorussia or prefixes D0, D1
- Russia: assigned R1H, R1V for Kherson; R6S R7S for Zaporizhya

Thank you!



- Volodymyr “Wlad” Gurtovy, US7IGN
- A book about his experiences living in Kyiv, Ukraine, in the middle of a war
- Of course, since Wlad is a ham, radio is a main character in the story

References

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- **Military Stations:** https://priyom.org/military-stations/russia/air-force#long-range-aviation
- **UX1UA QTH:** https://www.facebook.com/RigExpertUkraineLtd/posts/1262905027781156
- **“War Diaries” by US7IGN:** https://www.amazon.com/War-Diaries-Radio-Amateur-Kyiv/dp/B0BM3L1YL1
- **Battle of Sumy:** https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Sumy
- **Amateur Radio allowed in the following regions of Ukraine**: https://v4l1k.notion.site/06-11-2022-6e81425f78124e89b7c0d4f0618ec163#162009851bfd4fb9b8a6fbefdb62f143
- **IARU-R1 Note:** https://www.iaru-r1.org/2022/note/
- **Yuri VE3DZ on Ukraine participation in WRTC 2022:** https://groups.io/g/wrtc2022reflector/message/95
- **Russian CW Club Awards:** https://rcwc.ru/2883-diplomnaja-programma-doroga-domoj.html
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